ABSTRACT

A system and method that allows a page (e.g., Internet content) author to associate a set of security settings on any desired element (e.g., tag) of the page. When the page is

5 interpreted, each element is handled based on its associated security settings, allowing a page author to request that any element be considered differently with respect to security than other elements, and/or differently relative to the page that contains it. A negotiator determines the actual settings

10 for elements to ensure that security cannot be compromised by tagging an element such that it has the ability to do more than desired. The negotiator also determines the settings for elements that do not have specifically associated security data, e.g., elements without specified security settings may

15 inherit security settings from higher elements, or the top-level container. The settings may correspond to those of a security zone.